

REMARKS

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1 to 12 were presented for examination. Applicant notes with deep appreciation allowance of claims 8-12 and the indication of allowable subject matter in claim 7. Claims 1-7 were rejected variously on the basis of 35 U.S.C. §102 or §103 as being anticipated by or unpatentable in view of Kalt US 4,266,339 and subject matter of which Official Notice was taken.

The Office Action has been most carefully studied. In this amendment applicant has canceled claims 1-7 without prejudice, and has added new claim 13 more particularly pointing out the invention.

New Claim 13

Claim 13 is a rewriting in independent form of claim 7 and includes the subject matter of claims 1, 5 and 7, pursuant to the Office's indications as to allowability. Accordingly, claim 13 is believed clearly allowable.

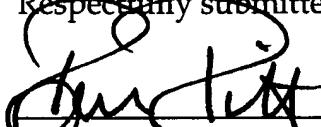
Reasons for Amendment

Claims 1 to 7 are canceled without prejudice to expedite allowance of the application with allowed claims 8-12. No admission is made regarding the alleged anticipation or unpatentability of any one of claims 1-7 and applicant reserves the right to again present the subject matter of any of these claims at a later date, for example in a continuation application.

In view of the above amendments and the discussion relating thereto, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application, as amended, is in condition for allowance. Such action is most earnestly solicited. If for any reason the Examiner feels

that consultation with Applicant's representative would be helpful in the advancement of the prosecution, they are invited to call the telephone number below for an interview.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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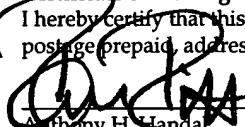
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope, postage prepaid, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 18, 2004.



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